

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO STOCKHOLM HELSINKI VIENNA
FROM USUN DECEMBER 11TH

QUOTE

UNCLAS USUN 5526

DEPT PLEASE REPEAT FOR INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJECT: LOS CONFERENCE

REF: USUN 5485

1. SUMMARY: LOS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE OPENED
DEC 10 MEETING WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF REGIONAL GROUP AGREE-
MENT ON COMPOSITION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE AND DRAFTING
COMMITTEE. UNDERSTANDING ACCEPTED ON NO-OBJECTION BASIS.
IF CARRIED OUT IN DEC 11 ELECTION OF OFFICERS, IT WILL
RESOLVE MAJOR IMPASSE WHICH HAD DEVELOPED OVER US REPRE-
SENTATION ON THOSE COMMITTEES. COMPROMISE INCORPORATED
EARLIER PROPOSAL FOR 48 MEMBER GENERAL COMMITTEE AND 23
MEMBER DRAFTING COMMITTEE, WITH MODIFICATION THAT DRAFTING
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WILL NOT BE MEMBER OF GENERAL
COMMITTEE (VERSION OF IDEA ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY
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CANADIAN REP BEESLEY). KEY FEATURE IS APPARENT AGREE-

MENT BY AF AS LA AND EE GROUPS ON ONE HAND, AND WEO ON OTHER, TO INCLUDE US IN WEO QUOTA WITH AMBIGUITY AS TO WHETHER US IS COUNTED AS MEMBER OF WEO GROUP. END SUMMARY.

2. LOS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE ANNOUNCED TO DEC 10 MEETING REGIONAL GROUP AGREEMENT ON COMPOSITION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE AND DRAFTING COMMITTEE. GENERAL COMMITTEE WILL CONSIST OF 48 MEMBERS - CONFERENCE PRESIDENT, 31 VICE PRESIDENTS, 15 MEMBERS OF MAIN COMMITTEE BUREAU AND CONFERENCE RAPPOREUR GENERAL. CHAIRMAN OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE WILL NOT BE MEMBER OF GENERAL COMMITTEE, BUT WILL HAVE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN GENERAL COMMITTEE WITHOUT VOTE. REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE WILL BE AS SET FORTH IN EARLIER "TENTATIVE" AGREEMENT: 12 AF, 12 ASIANS, 9 LA, 9 WEO AND 6 EE.

3. DRAFTING COMMITTEE WILL CONSIST OF 23 MEMBERS DISTRIBUTED AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED: 6 AF, 6 ASIANS, 4 LA, 5 WEO AND 2 EE. CONFERENCE RAPPOREUR GENERAL WILL HAVE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN DRAFTING COMMITTEE MEETINGS BUT WITHOUT RIGHT TO VOTE.

4. AMERASINGHE DESCRIBED AS MAIN FEATURE OF COMPROMISE UNDERSTANDING BY FOUR REGIONAL GROUPS- AF, AS, LA AND EE - THAT ANY CANDIDATURE SUBMITTED BY US WOULD BE ACCOMMODATED WITHIN WEO QUOTA. IN EFFECT, UNDERSTANDING REFLECTS AGREEMENT ON AMBIGUITY AS TO WHETHER US IS COUNTED IN WEO GROUP. AMERASINGHE ALSO SCHEDULED FORMAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR DEC 11 AM MEETING, ADDING THAT ELECTION WOULD BE BY ACCLAMATION EXCEPT IN CASES WHERE THERE ARE MORE CANDIDATES THAN POSITIONS.

5. AGREEMENT ANNOUNCED BY AMERASINGHE WAS ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE ON NO OBJECTION BASIS. IT RESULTED FROM MEETING OF REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMEN, US AND AMERASINGHE PRIOR TO DEC 10 MEETING. THERE CONTINUE TO BE MAJOR DISAGREEMENTS OVER CANDIDACIES IN WEO GROUP, AS WELL AS IN ASIAN GROUP. SUCH SPLITS CONSTITUTE REMAINING UNCERTAINLY OVER COMPROMISE. AMERASINGHE WISHES TO AVOID FORMAL VOTING ON OFFICERS. HE CLEARLY SIGNALLED TO WEOS HIS HOPE

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THAT THEY WILL COME UP WITH AGREED SLATES OF CANDIDATES ALLOWING FOR UNOPPOSED US ELECTION TO BOTH GENERAL AND DRAFTING COMMITTEES, AND IN EFFECT WARNED THAT WEOS WOULD BE OUTVOTED IF THEY SUBMITTED COMPETING CANDIDACIES.

6. AMERASINGHE CLOSED DEC 10 MEETING WITH APPEAL TO PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE ACTION ON RULES OF PROCEDURE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS WITHIN TIME ALLOTTED BY UNGA.

HE SAID THERE COULD BE NO QUESTION OF DEFERRING
ANY SUCH ISSUES TO CARACAS SESSION, AS WELL AS NOTING
IMPOSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION BEYOND
DEC 14. BENNETT UNQUOTE RUSH

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